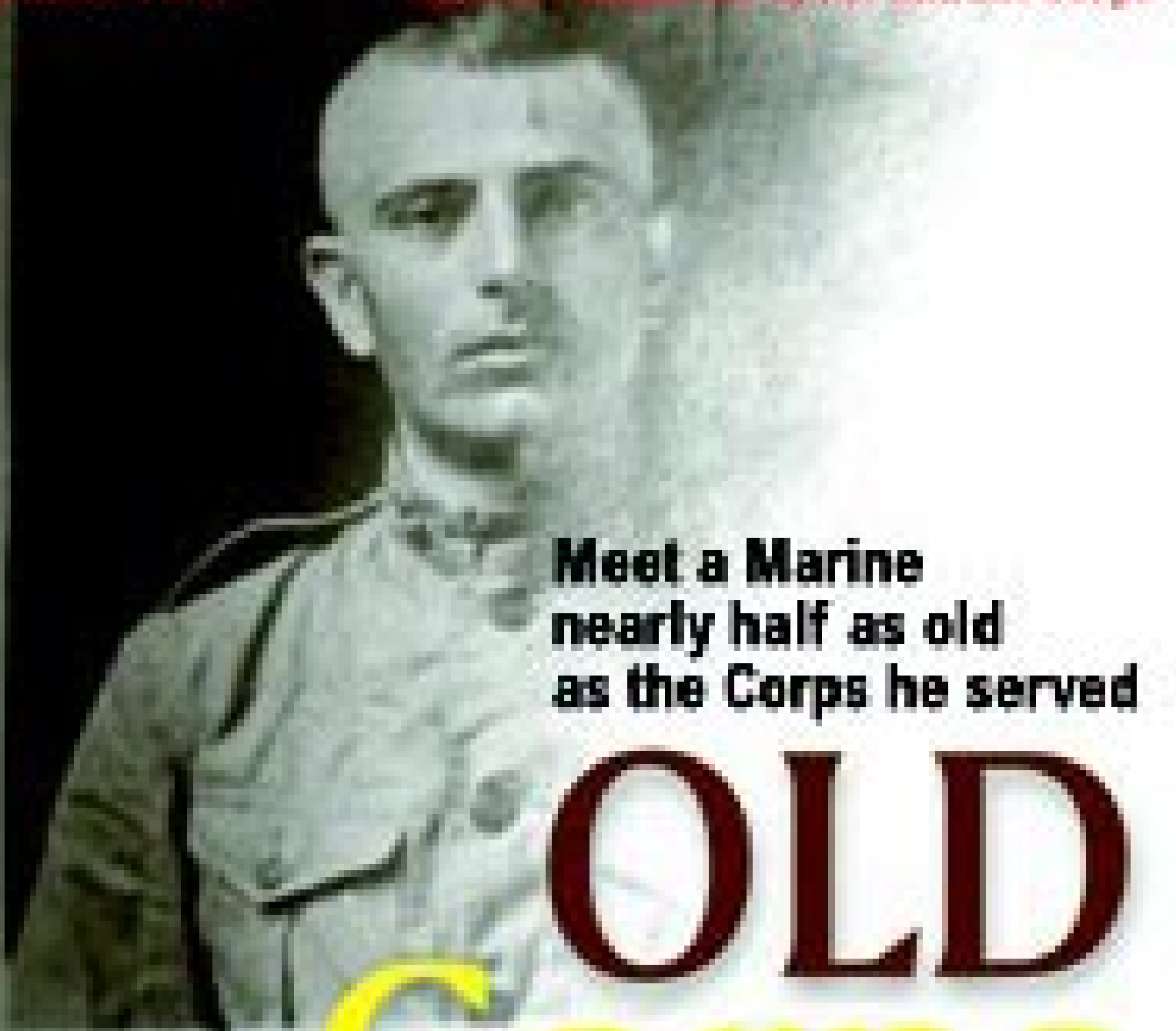


Marines

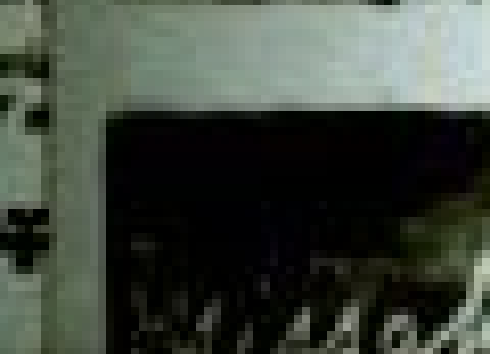
September 1992

Official Magazine of the Marine Corps



**Meet a Marine
nearly half as old
as the Corps he served**

OLD Corps





Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Required by 39 USC 3685)

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- Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.
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Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of second-class authorization.

PS Form 3526, September 1995 (Rev. 9/95)



For fifty years, Marine Corps Reserve units have collected and distributed an estimated 112,000,000 toys to needy children in their communities through the Toys for Tots program.

To become a member of the Toys for Tots team this year, find the drop-off point nearest you on the foundation's Internet site (www.toysfortots.org), or by calling (703) 640-9433.

Courage in the Corps

Tennessee bridge dedicated to Marine Hero

By Pfc. Chet Decker,
MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C.

No one knows what 1st Lt. Alexander Bonnyman was thinking the moment he was killed by the Japanese during the assault on Tarawa in World War II.

What does a man think of during the last moments of his life? About his wife and children, his childhood, of heaven? Perhaps Bonnyman did not have time to think.

The Marine's one-man assault began when he crawled 40 yards through the sand to place explosives at the entrance to a large Japanese emplacement, killing nearly 150 enemy soldiers.

During his final stand, a desperate charge of enemy soldiers came directly toward him. He fell mortally wounded, but not before taking three more of the enemy with him.

Bonnyman's actions during World War II earned him the Medal of Honor posthumously and several other honors, including the naming of a maritime prepositioning ship after him, and the mention of his name in countless books and articles.

Now, a bridge has been named in his honor in his hometown of Knoxville, Tenn. On Sept. 8, the bridge, which spans the shores of the Tennessee River, was dubbed the "Lt. Alexander 'Sandy' Bonnyman Memorial Bridge."

As a small business owner, Bonnyman was exempt from having to join the service. A very patriotic man, Bonnyman was anxious to join the war effort. He said good-bye to his wife and three daughters, and became a

Marine private before earning a battle-field commission for his actions on Guadalcanal.

During the bridge dedication ceremony, a wreath was laid at the foot of the sign bearing Bonnyman's name. A formation of four F-18 Hornets flew overhead, the 2nd Marine Division Band from Camp Lejeune, N.C., played, several guest speakers delivered remarks, and 21 guns cried out their salute.

"This is just so wonderful. I am so impressed with the Marine Corps," said Francis Evans, Bonnyman's oldest daughter. "The Marines are wonderful to remember their war heroes. It's very fitting to have this here in his hometown."

Retired Lt. Gen. Robert Tiebout was the keynote speaker. He was joined in the ceremony by several members of Congress and state representatives. The idea for the bridge naming was presented to the city of Knoxville by the local Marine Corps League detachment. The league, which boasts over 45,000 members nationwide, does charity work and provides support to local and visiting Marines. The Knoxville detachment is named after Bonnyman.

Also present at the ceremony were several reserve units and a platoon of "Lt. Bonnyman's Young Marines." The Marine squadron performing the fly-over was from Marine Aircraft Group-42, Naval Air Station, Atlanta.

One of the speakers related his views of the Marine Corps by telling the story of a woman who was recently married in Sacramento, Calif. She had wished her father, who was killed in action in World War II, was there to give her away. With the assistance of the Marine Corps, she was able to contact one of her father's



First Lt. Alexander Bonnyman

war buddies to give her away.

It was a prime example of Marines helping other Marines, much the same way the hundreds of present and former Marines gathered to honor Bonnyman and his family. Few eyes were dry when the 2nd Marine Division Band played taps.

"I remember him as being tall, handsome and fun," said Evans, who was five years old when her father left for recruit training in San Diego. "I remember he took me to church. He was a wonderful, caring father."

Evans was seven when she learned of her father's tragic death.

After three days of fighting, Bonnyman died on the final day of the battle for Tarawa, when the U.S. Marine Corps took control.

The last moment of Bonnyman's 33 years on earth ended on top of the highest point of the island ... closer to God.

The Marine Corps Values Program is designed to instill, reinforce, and sustain in every Marine our Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment — from the rank of general down to the newest recruits and officer candidates. These values are the very ethos of our character, which must be burned into the souls of all who wear the eagle, globe, and anchor. It is every Marine's responsibility to teach these values to their junior Marines by their impeccable example and to show society by the same. "Courage in the Corps" portrays Marines who have displayed our core values by their distinguished actions in combat and in peace, those who have laid their lives on the line for the success of the mission, and those who contribute in other ways but go unnoticed.

Shot, Over!

During a field exercise aboard Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Battery F, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, fires a High Explosive 155 mm round out of an M198 howitzer. This exercise was conducted to practice moving at a moment's notice to new positions for firing.

